



Biblical Foundations

What Are You Doing with Your Dash?

Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

— Psalm 90:12 (NIV)



Look closely at almost any tombstone, and you will find a common element. It's small and seemingly insignificant. In fact, you may not have noticed it before. But it's there, situated inconspicuously between the date of birth and the date of death—the dash.

It's not a word or even a letter. It's just a small horizontal line—a tiny symbol that represents everything that happened in a person's life between those two dates. That dash is your life.

Though we all know our date of birth, we have yet to discover our precise date of death—but it's coming. As Solomon stated, "... no one knows when their hour will come ..." (Eccl. 9:12a NIV).

One day, your earthly life will come to an end. It will all be over. All your opportunities will be behind you, and the time for action will have passed. You will no longer have the ability to act, decide, or effect any sort of change. Your life decisions will be finalized, set in stone.

Which memories will make you happy, and which might you regret? What actions will you wish you had taken; what decisions will you wish you had made differently? What is the legacy you will leave?



Our estate plan defines our final act as a steward. How will your plan allow you to make the kind of impact you want? How will your present life impact your eternal experience and influence the eternal experiences of others?

Life is short, and opportunities are limited. Let's make the most of our dash while we can.

Only One Life, 'Twill Soon Be Past

by C. T. Studd

Two little lines I heard one day,
Traveling along life's busy way;
Bringing conviction to my heart,
And from my mind would not depart;
Only one life, 'twill soon be past,
Only what's done for Christ will last.